

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 027670

21

ORIGIN EA-09

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DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:JDROSENTHAL/FMLC

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R 050017Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 027670

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF QUAKER OFFICIAL

1. DEPARTMENT WAS ADVISED FEBRUARY 3 THAT DAVID ELDER, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICES, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (QUAKERS), WILL BE VISITING LAOS AT THE END OF FEBRUARY -- BEGINNING OF MARCH. ELDER WILL BE CONSULTING WITH QUAKER OFFICE IN VIENTIANE AND LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER PROJECTS IN LAOS. ELDER APPARENTLY PLANS TO TRY TO VISIT PLAIN OF JARS AREA TO SEE IF PROJECTS WOULD BE FEASIBLE THERE. ONE POSSIBILITY MENTIONED WAS PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT TO ASSIST IN DETECTION AND DEFUSING OF UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE.

2. DEPARTMENT ADVISED THAT ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NO RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL TO LAOS, TRAVEL THERE BY AMERICANS WAS DISCOURAGED IN LIGHT OF CONTINUING UNSETTLED CONDITIONS. ELDER MAY CONTACT EMBASSY THROUGH RESIDENT QUAKER PERSONNEL DURING HIS STAY. INGERSOLL

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